

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3111
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2010
WELFARE SCHEMES FOR PRIVATE WORKERS
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has initiated any welfare schemes for the private sector workers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of such workers likely to be benefited from these schemes, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (c): Accordingly to the survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 2004-05, the total employment in both the organized and unorganized sector is 45.9 crore. Out of this, 43.3 crore were in the unorganized sector and 2.6 crore were in the organized sector.

The private sector workers in the organized sector are covered under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act and the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948. Number of ESIC beneficiaries as on 31.03.2010 is 554.84 lakh and Number of beneficiaries of EPF is 587.96 lakh.

The Government has launched the Aam Admi Bima Yojana (AABY) to provide insurance against death and disability. More than 1.45 crore lives have been covered under AABY as on 31.07.2010. State-wise number of lives covered under AABY is at Annexure-I. The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) to provide smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30000 to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganized sector. More than 1.96 crore BPL families (a unit of five) have been covered under RSBY as on 31.10.2010. State-wise number of smart cards issued to BPL families under RSBY is at annexure-II.

Recognizing the need to providing social security to unorganised workers, the Government has enacted the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act 2008. The Act provides for constitution of National Social Security Board at the Central level and State Social Security Boards at the State level which shall recommend formulation of social security schemes for unorganised workers.

Various schemes/ programmes are being implemented by the Government for welfare of unorganised workers such as Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana, National Social Assistance Programme and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 which provides 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

The Government has constituted the Welfare Funds for some categories of workers like beedi, cine and non-coal mine workers in the unorganised sector. The Welfare Funds are utilized to provide for financing of measures to promote the welfare of workers including women workers engaged in these occupations. The welfare measures include health & medical care, insurance, housing, education, recreation, water supply, maternity benefits, etc.